



The Daily

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- **Retail trade, October 2001** 6
 Retail sales bounced back 1.7% in October to \$24.2 billion. October's gain cancelled the 1.5% broad-based decline in September, leaving sales essentially flat since April.

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Canadian economic observer December 2001

The December issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, *Canadian economic observer*, analyses current economic conditions and summarizes the major economic events that occurred in November. It also presents a feature article on the monthly analysis conducted at Statistics Canada between 1926 and 2001.

A separate statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The December 2001 (Vol. 14, no. 12) issue of *Canadian economic observer* (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) is now available. See *How to order products*. Visit the Canadian economic observer's page on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From *Canadian statistics*, choose *Economic conditions*, and on that page click on the banner ad for *Canadian economic observer*. For more information, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627; ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.

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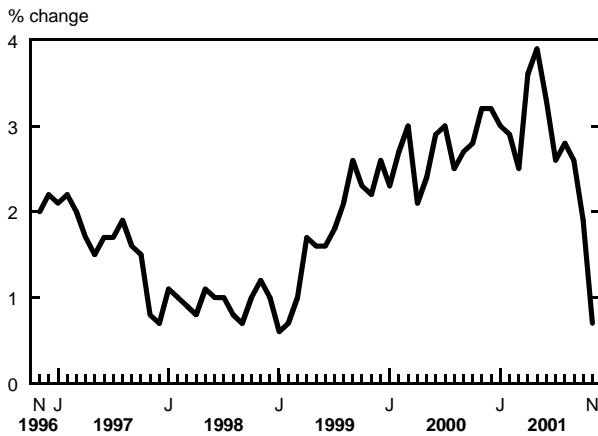
MAJOR RELEASES

Consumer Price Index

November 2001

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.7 % between November 2000 and November 2001—the smallest 12-month advance since February 1999. Continued declines in energy prices tempered the rise. Except in August, price increases have been steadily slowing since their recent peak of 3.9% in May 2001.

Percentage change in the Consumer Price Index from the same month of the previous year



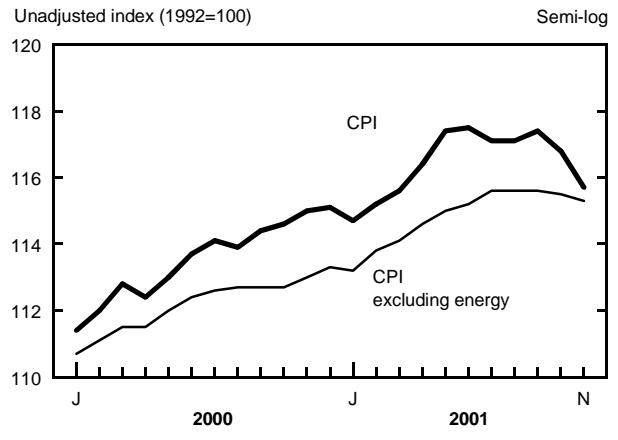
In November, the CPI excluding energy prices made a 12-month advance of 2.1%—the lowest rate this year. As shown in the chart below, the CPI excluding energy has been reflecting price stability over since July 2001.

Energy prices, which dropped 12.5% from November 2000, provided the bulk of the downward pressure on the CPI. Except for electricity, prices for all components of the energy index fell substantially—bringing about the largest 12-month decline in that index since January 1987. Central to this decline were a 19.3% drop in gasoline prices and a 15.5% fall in natural gas prices.

In contrast to energy prices, food prices were the primary source of upward pressure on the CPI in November. Food prices rose 3.9% between November 2000 and November 2001. Restaurant meals and beef prices continued to play a dominant role. Despite the impact of food prices on the CPI, November's increase represented a slowdown from the previous nine months, when the 12-month rate of increase ranged between 4.1% and 5.2%.

Higher prices for cigarettes, rent and homeowners' replacement cost were also important contributors to November's 12-month increase. These effects were tempered by lower prices for automotive vehicle purchases and traveller accommodation.

The CPI and the CPI excluding energy



Largest monthly decline in CPI since June 1959

On the heels of October's 0.5% decrease, the CPI dropped a further 0.9% in November—the largest monthly decline since June 1959. The downward pressure on the CPI stemmed mostly from weaker prices for gasoline, natural gas and traveller accommodation. This was somewhat offset by higher cigarette prices.

Gasoline prices tumbled a further 10.0% between October and November, partly the result of weak global demand. The threat of a price war by OPEC if key non-OPEC countries do not cooperate in cutting crude oil production also put downward pressure on gasoline prices. Monthly declines of this magnitude were last seen in gasoline prices in 1986. Combined with previous declines, gasoline prices tumbled 19.3% between November 2000 and November 2001—the largest 12-month drop since December 1986.

Natural gas prices shrank 22.4% between October and November—the fifth consecutive monthly decline. Residents of most provinces saw their natural gas prices fall; however, a credit received by Alberta customers was largely responsible for pushing down the index. For the first time in over three years, natural gas prices fell below their level of a year earlier (-15.5%).

Between October and November 2001, traveller accommodation prices fell a further 9.8%. Promotions were put in place and rates were dropped in order to attract customers during this seasonal low point. The impact of non-seasonal factors, such as the events of September 11, and the effects of an economic slowdown are evident in the 12-month percentage changes. Prices were 7.5% lower than in November 2000—the sixth consecutive 12-month decrease.

The introduction of a federal tax increase on cigarettes pushed up prices across the country. Some provinces also implemented their own tax hikes, resulting in monthly increases ranging from 2.0% in Newfoundland and Manitoba to a high of 12.3% in Quebec. Overall, cigarette prices for Canada rose 8.2% between October and November 2001 and climbed 24.7% compared to November 2000.

Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0001, 326-0003, 326-0004 and 326-0010.

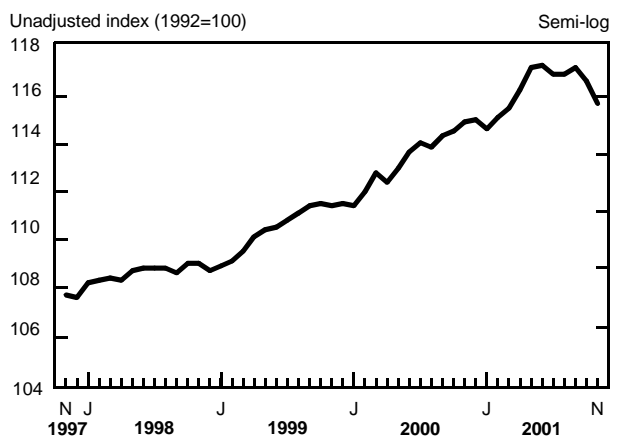
Available at 7 a.m. on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca).

The November 2001 issue of the *The Consumer Price Index* (62-001-XPB, \$11/\$103; 62-001-XIB, \$8/\$77) is now available. See *How to order products*.

December's Consumer Price Index will be released on January 22, 2002.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1 866 230-2248 or 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca) or Joanne Moreau (613-951-7130), Prices Division. □

Consumer Price Index



The Consumer Price Index and its major components
(1992=100)

	November 2001	October 2001	November 2000	October to November 2001	November 2000 to November 2001
unadjusted					
	% change				
All-items	115.8	116.8	115.0	-0.9	0.7
Food	117.3	116.8	112.9	0.4	3.9
Shelter	112.0	113.6	111.2	-1.4	0.7
Household operations and furnishings	112.7	113.0	110.7	-0.3	1.8
Clothing and footwear	105.2	107.2	105.4	-1.9	-0.2
Transportation	126.9	130.3	134.0	-2.6	-5.3
Health and personal care	114.7	115.0	112.9	-0.3	1.6
Recreation, education and reading	123.2	124.5	122.4	-1.0	0.7
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	111.7	106.8	98.6	4.6	13.3
All-items (1986=100)	148.3				
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1992	86.4	85.6	87.0		
Special aggregates					
Goods	112.1	113.8	113.1	-1.5	-0.9
Services	119.9	120.3	117.3	-0.3	2.2
All-items excluding food and energy	114.9	115.1	113.0	-0.2	1.7
Energy	119.5	131.0	136.6	-8.8	-12.5
All-items excluding the eight most volatile components ¹	117.8	118.2	115.8	-0.3	1.7

¹ Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, consult the Bank of Canada website: <http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation>.

Consumer Price Indexes for the provinces, Whitehorse and Yellowknife
(1992=100)

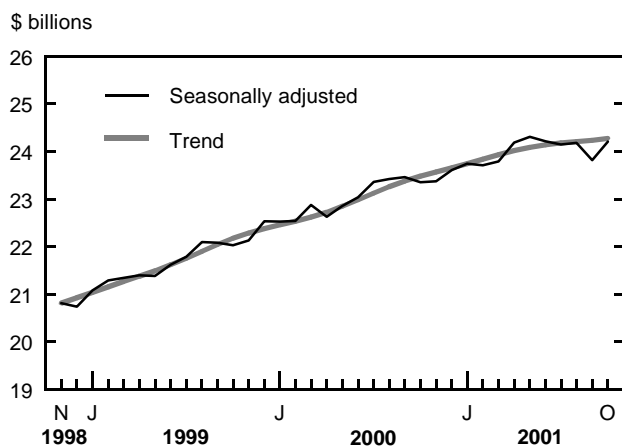
	November 2001	October 2001	November 2000	October to November 2001	November 2000 to November 2001
unadjusted					
	% change				
Newfoundland	113.7	114.3	114.3	-0.5	-0.5
Prince Edward Island	115.1	115.4	114.1	-0.3	0.9
Nova Scotia	116.1	116.4	116.2	-0.3	-0.1
New Brunswick	114.5	114.8	114.4	-0.3	0.1
Quebec	112.9	113.2	111.7	-0.3	1.1
Ontario	117.3	118.2	115.9	-0.8	1.2
Manitoba	120.2	121.5	119.2	-1.1	0.8
Saskatchewan	120.4	121.2	118.0	-0.7	2.0
Alberta	116.6	121.0	119.6	-3.6	-2.5
British Columbia	114.9	115.8	114.5	-0.8	0.3
Whitehorse	116.2	117.5	115.6	-1.1	0.5
Yellowknife	113.2	113.5	111.9	-0.3	1.2

Retail trade

October 2001

Retail sales bounced back 1.7% in October to \$24.2 billion. October's gain cancelled the 1.5% broad-based decline in September, leaving sales essentially flat since April. Prior to April 2001, retailers enjoyed rising sales since the summer of 1998, except for a pause in the second half of 2000.

Retail sales bounced back in October



All retail sectors and provinces posted sales advances in October. About half of October's gain came from stronger sales at motor and recreational vehicle dealers. Excluding these dealers, retail sales advanced 1.1% in October after a 1.0% decline in September.

In constant dollars, after falling 2.1% in September, total retail sales rose 2.3% in October. Plunging prices for gasoline at the pump (-8.0%) was the only major price movement affecting retail sales in October.

For the first 10 months of 2001, retail sales were 4.4% higher than in the same period of 2000. This compares with a 2.5% year-over-year increase for the same period when adjusted for price movements.

General merchandisers and clothing stores led the rebound

Retailers in the general merchandise sector and in the clothing sector led the sales rebound in October, after posting the largest losses in September.

Note to readers

Estimates from the Monthly Retail Trade Survey are classified according to the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification. Retail sales estimates for November will be released on January 21, 2002.

Sales in the general merchandise sector advanced 3.5% in October, following two months of declines. This increase brought sales back to their January level, after a period of advances that began at the start of 2000. The openings of several new department stores contributed to October's increase. Department store sales were up 5.6%.

Retailers in the clothing sector also reported a 3.5% sales gain in October, after experiencing a 2.1% decline in September. All store types in the clothing sector reported strong recoveries in October. The downward movement in sales in the clothing sector since April 2001 seems to have stabilized following October's gain. Prior to April, sales in the clothing sector had been advancing rapidly since the start of 2000, with the strength coming primarily from the "other" clothing stores. Stores in the "other" category sell a variety of women's, men's and children's clothing.

Consumers back in auto dealers' showrooms

Sales in the automotive sector advanced 1.8% in October, following a 2.1% decline the previous month. Within this sector, auto parts, accessories and services stores (+6.4%) and motor and recreational vehicle dealers (+3.3%) recovered from their respective sales declines in September. Sales in gasoline service stations fell 6.3% in October, reflecting a 8.0% drop in gas prices at the pump.

After posting a 4.6% sales increase in April 2001, motor and recreational vehicle dealers have experienced essentially flat sales since then. Manufacturers' incentives offered to car buyers are continuing to stimulate demand.

Sales in furniture stores advanced 1.5% in October. The trend in furniture store sales, which had generally been flat since the start of 2001, was pulled upward by the increase in October. Drugstore sales increased 1.0% in October, after remaining essentially flat in the previous three months. Sales in drugstores have generally been rising since early 2000. Food retailers continue to enjoy a period of strong sales increases that started in early 2000, despite weaker increases in October (+0.1%) and September (+0.1%).

Sales up in all provinces

In October, retailers in most provinces regained the ground they lost in September. Retail sales advanced at least 1.0% in all provinces, except for a 0.5% gain in British Columbia. Despite October's increases, all provinces have experienced a slowdown in retail sales since the spring or the summer of 2001.

Alberta (+9.1%), Newfoundland (+8.0%) and British Columbia (+6.0%) posted the strongest year-to-date sales in the first 10 months of 2001 compared with the same period in 2000. This compares with a 4.4% increase over the same period at the national level.

Related indicators for November

Preliminary figures from the auto industry indicate a sizeable increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold in November compared with October. Department

store sales, including sales by concessions, were down 1.7% in November after a 5.4% rebound in October. In November, the Bank Rate was lowered for the ninth time in 2001, to 2.5%; in December 2000, it stood at 6.0%. Total employment edged up 0.1% in November on the strength of part-time jobs.

Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0001 to 080-0005.

The October 2001 issue of *Retail trade* (63-005-XIB, \$16/\$155) will be available shortly. See *How to order products*.

To order data, or for general information, contact Client Services (1 877 421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-3541; paul.gratton@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. □

The Daily, December 20, 2001

Retail sales

	October 2000	July 2001 ^r	August 2001 ^r	September 2001 ^r	October 2001 ^p	September to October 2001	October 2000 to October 2001
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
Food	5,185	5,365	5,400	5,404	5,409	0.1	4.3
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,804	4,959	4,994	4,999	5,003	0.1	4.2
All other food stores	381	406	406	405	406	0.1	6.4
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,144	1,211	1,215	1,211	1,223	1.0	6.9
Clothing	1,296	1,294	1,324	1,296	1,341	3.5	3.5
Shoe stores	148	145	146	146	147	1.2	-0.6
Men's clothing stores	125	121	119	114	120	4.8	-4.4
Women's clothing stores	396	382	401	388	399	2.8	0.8
Other clothing stores	626	646	658	648	675	4.1	7.8
Furniture	1,283	1,342	1,354	1,350	1,370	1.5	6.8
Household furniture and appliance stores	1,035	1,082	1,088	1,085	1,108	2.2	7.0
Household furnishings stores	247	260	266	265	262	-1.1	6.0
Automotive	9,272	9,554	9,583	9,385	9,557	1.8	3.1
Motor and recreational vehicle dealers	6,007	6,381	6,335	6,152	6,358	3.3	5.8
Gasoline service stations	1,950	1,802	1,848	1,912	1,793	-6.3	-8.0
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,315	1,371	1,400	1,321	1,406	6.4	6.9
General merchandise stores	2,652	2,771	2,709	2,622	2,714	3.5	2.3
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	2,521	2,607	2,593	2,545	2,593	1.9	2.9
Other semi-durable goods stores	731	756	728	720	728	1.2	-0.3
Other durable goods stores	632	639	641	620	639	3.1	1.2
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,158	1,211	1,225	1,205	1,225	1.7	5.8
Total, retail sales	23,352	24,144	24,177	23,813	24,207	1.7	3.7
Total excluding motor and recreational vehicle dealers	17,345	17,763	17,842	17,662	17,849	1.1	2.9
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland	378	425	421	412	422	2.4	11.4
Prince Edward Island	101	108	108	104	108	3.4	6.4
Nova Scotia	704	733	725	728	736	1.1	4.5
New Brunswick	566	579	584	575	597	3.8	5.3
Quebec	5,361	5,504	5,526	5,423	5,501	1.4	2.6
Ontario	9,006	9,105	9,130	8,952	9,108	1.7	1.1
Manitoba	785	843	828	830	840	1.2	7.0
Saskatchewan	672	693	690	695	706	1.5	4.9
Alberta	2,687	2,896	2,908	2,847	2,927	2.8	8.9
British Columbia	3,011	3,178	3,177	3,165	3,179	0.5	5.6
Yukon	29	29	29	30	31	3.4	8.0
Northwest Territories	34	35	36	36	36	1.9	7.2
Nunavut	16	17	16	16	16	-0.7	1.1

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Retail sales

	October 2000	September 2001 ^f	October 2001 ^p	October 2000 to October 2001
unadjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
Food	4,930	5,382	5,212	5.7
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,563	4,982	4,819	5.6
All other food stores	367	400	393	7.3
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,136	1,152	1,233	8.5
Clothing	1,343	1,343	1,411	5.1
Shoe stores	161	157	164	2.2
Men's clothing stores	127	107	122	-4.0
Women's clothing stores	404	401	412	1.8
Other clothing stores	651	678	714	9.6
Furniture	1,308	1,360	1,416	8.2
Household furniture and appliance stores	1,049	1,097	1,133	8.1
Household furnishings stores	259	263	282	9.0
Automotive	8,999	9,156	9,464	5.2
Motor and recreational vehicle dealers	5,664	5,991	6,175	9.0
Gasoline service stations	2,012	1,917	1,833	-8.9
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,323	1,248	1,456	10.0
General merchandise stores	2,695	2,471	2,791	3.6
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	2,345	2,492	2,449	4.4
Other semi-durable goods stores	700	714	719	2.8
Other durable goods stores	546	582	558	2.1
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,099	1,196	1,172	6.7
Total, retail sales	22,756	23,355	23,976	5.4
Total excluding motor and recreational vehicle dealers	17,092	17,365	17,801	4.1
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland	365	398	411	12.6
Prince Edward Island	97	104	104	7.3
Nova Scotia	676	696	716	5.8
New Brunswick	555	562	599	7.9
Quebec	5,246	5,304	5,439	3.7
Ontario	8,735	8,826	9,040	3.5
Manitoba	767	813	837	9.2
Saskatchewan	676	678	721	6.6
Alberta	2,643	2,799	2,933	10.9
British Columbia	2,919	3,097	3,095	6.0
Yukon	27	30	30	13.5
Northwest Territories	33	35	35	8.8
Nunavut	16	16	16	0.5

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Employment Insurance

October 2001 (preliminary)

In October, an estimated 537,920 Canadians (adjusted for seasonality) received the regular Employment Insurance (EI) benefits, a slight increase from September (+1.3%). Compared with October 2000, the number of regular beneficiaries climbed 15.5%. The 1.3% monthly increase followed small declines in August and September and resumed the upward trend observed since November 2000. In October, most provinces and territories recorded an increase in the number of regular beneficiaries, with the largest occurring in Manitoba (+4.1%), Ontario (+3.4%) and Saskatchewan (+3.4%).

The amount of regular benefits paid was down 2.9% to \$719.2 million from September to October, due in part to a decrease in the number of weeks paid. Over the same period, the number of initial and renewal EI claims received rose 11.6% to 271,440 claims.

Employment insurance statistics

	Oct. 2000	Sept. 2001	Oct. 2001	Sept. 2001 to Oct. 2001	Oct. 2000 to Oct. 2001
seasonally adjusted					
					% change
Regular beneficiaries	465,550	531,230 ^P	537,920 ^P	1.3	15.5
Regular benefits paid (\$ millions)	598.7	740.3	719.2	-2.9	20.1
Claims received ('000)	226.0	243.2	271.4	11.6	20.1
not seasonally adjusted					
					% change
All beneficiaries ('000)	523.1	601.6 ^P	654.6 ^P	8.8	25.1
Regular beneficiaries ('000)	359.2	378.9 ^P	412.6 ^P	8.9	14.9
Claims received ('000)	255.6	207.8	310.3	49.3	21.4
Payments (\$ millions)	780.5	1,036.5	1,005.7	-3.0	28.9
Year-to-date (January to October)					
					2000 to 2001
					% change
Claims received ('000)			2,021.4	2,307.8	14.2
Payments (\$ millions)			9,390.1	10,646.2	13.4

^P Preliminary figures.

Note: All beneficiaries includes all claimants receiving regular benefits (e.g., due to layoff) or special benefits (e.g., due to illness).

Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	Oct. 2001 ^P	Sept. to Oct. 2001	Oct. to Oct. 2001
seasonally adjusted			
	% change		
Canada	537,920	1.3	15.5
Newfoundland	35,040	-0.9	1.0
Prince Edward Island	7,710	1.2	-4.2
Nova Scotia	28,220	-4.9	-3.3
New Brunswick	35,660	-5.4	10.7
Quebec	181,980	2.3	12.2
Ontario	135,030	3.4	40.4
Manitoba	13,650	4.1	15.3
Saskatchewan	11,110	3.4	-3.1
Alberta	25,480	3.1	0.9
British Columbia	62,180	2.7	17.6
Yukon Territory	760	-7.3	-18.3
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	990	1.0	-18.2
not seasonally adjusted			
Northwest Territories	920	15.0	-7.1
Nunavut	420	5.0	-8.7

^P Preliminary figures.

Note: The Employment Insurance (EI) data are produced from an administrative data source, so they may occasionally be affected by changes to the *Employment Insurance Act*. For example, in May 2001, that act was amended to eliminate the intensity rule, to adjust the benefit repayment provision and the re-entrant rules for parents returning to the workforce, and to align the EI fishing regulations with the enhanced maternity and parental benefits. These changes may have impacted the level of benefits in June. It should be noted, however, that retroactive payments made in June due to those changes were removed.

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received EI benefits for the week containing the 15th of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month. These different reference periods must be taken into account when comparing the two data series.

The *Employment Insurance Act* allows each province or administrative region of Human Resources Development Canada a certain autonomy when applying administrative procedures regarding renewal claims. Data users must consider that movements in claims levels from month to month may be affected by these procedural differences regarding renewal claims from one province/territory or region to another.

Available on CANSIM: tables 276-0001 to 276-0006, 276-0009, 276-0012 and 276-0015 to 276-0016.

To order data, or for general information, contact Client Services (1 866 873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4091) or Jean Leduc (613-951-4061), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Demographic statistics

October 1, 2001 (preliminary)

The postcensal estimates of population as of October 1, 2001 for Canada, the provinces and the territories are now available.

Available on CANSIM: tables 051-0005 to 051-0006, 051-0008 to 051-0009, 051-0017, 051-0020 and 053-0001.

These estimates will appear in the July—September issue of *Quarterly demographic statistics* (91-002-XIB, \$8/\$25; 91-002-XPB, \$10/\$33), which will be available shortly. See *How to order products*.

To order data, contact Lise Champagne (613-951-2320; lise.champagne@statcan.ca), Demography Division (fax: 613-951-2307) or the nearest Regional Reference Centre. For information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daniel Larrivée (613-951-0694; fax 613-951-2307; daniel.larrivee@statcan.ca), Demography Division.

Canada's population¹

	July 1, 2000 ^{PP}	October 1, 2000 ^{PP}	July 1, 2001 ^{PP}	October 1, 2001 ^{PP}	2000	2001
	persons				% change	
Canada	30,769,669	30,859,484	31,081,887	31,156,393	0.3	0.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	537,221	536,925	533,761	533,329	-0.1	-0.1
Prince Edward Island	138,065	138,111	138,514	138,898	0.0	0.3
Nova Scotia	941,199	943,011	942,691	943,031	0.2	0.0
New Brunswick	755,278	755,993	757,077	756,926	0.1	0.0
Quebec	7,377,654	7,385,397	7,410,504	7,418,651	0.1	0.1
Ontario	11,685,304	11,742,672	11,874,436	11,921,878	0.5	0.4
Manitoba	1,145,966	1,146,998	1,150,034	1,149,139	0.1	-0.1
Saskatchewan	1,021,992	1,021,288	1,015,783	1,014,125	-0.1	-0.2
Alberta	3,009,249	3,022,492	3,064,249	3,078,758	0.4	0.5
British Columbia	4,058,833	4,067,701	4,095,934	4,102,838	0.2	0.2
Yukon	30,582	30,356	29,885	29,696	-0.7	-0.6
Northwest Territories	40,907	40,970	40,860	40,570	0.2	-0.7
Nunavut	27,419	27,570	28,159	28,554	0.6	1.4

¹ These estimates take into account the 1996 Census results adjusted for net undercoverage.

^{PP} Updated postcensal estimates.

^{PP} Preliminary postcensal estimates.

Department store sales and stocks

November 2001

Department store sales declined 1.7% in November compared with October, when the year's largest monthly increase (+5.4%) was recorded. Seasonally adjusted, department store sales were \$1.65 billion in November.

November's decline in sales occurred despite the opening of a number of new stores during the month. A corresponding decline was observed in average sales

per location. With 747 stores in November, average sales were \$2.20 million—the second lowest monthly level in the first 11 months of 2001. The lowest level was observed in September (\$2.16 million), when there were only 734 locations.

The upward movement in department store sales that began in the spring of 2000 seems to have stalled in recent months. Previously, sales had been declining since October 1999, following a period of increases that lasted more than one year.

Cumulative department store sales for the first 11 months of 2001 reached \$18.1 billion, up 8.3% from the same period in 2000.

At the national level, department store sales (not adjusted for seasonality) were 7.0% higher in November than in the same month of 2000. For the same one-year period, sales were up in all provinces. The strongest sales increases were reported in the group formed by Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island (+25.9%) and Nova Scotia (+20.1%). As for cumulative sales for the first 11 months of the year, the group formed by Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island also registered the largest year-over-year increase (+19.7%), followed by Alberta (+11.9%).

Department store sales including concessions

	Nov. 2000	Nov. 2001	Nov. 2000 to Nov. 2001	Jan.-Nov. 2001	Jan.-Nov. 2000 to Jan.-Nov. 2001
	not seasonally adjusted				
	\$ millions		% change	\$ millions	% change
Canada	1,922.1	2,056.2	7.0	16,686.0	8.1
Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island ¹	45.3	57.0	25.9	387.6	19.7
Nova Scotia	63.7	76.6	20.1	493.2	5.8
New Brunswick	52.4	56.0	6.9	387.4	4.9
Quebec	323.3	354.2	9.6	3,025.6	6.9
Ontario	850.1	882.7	3.8	7,105.4	6.9
Manitoba	77.0	80.1	4.0	673.7	6.9
Saskatchewan	65.9	68.0	3.2	587.1	8.6
Alberta	226.4	247.4	9.2	2,049.5	11.9
British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut ¹	217.9	234.3	7.5	1976.5	9.5

¹ For reasons of confidentiality, data for Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island are combined, as are data for British Columbia, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Available on CANSIM: tables 076-0001 to 076-0004.

To order data, or for general information, contact Client Services (1 877 421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Cl rance Kimanyi (613-951-6363; clerance.kimanyi@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending December 15, 2001 (preliminary)

Production of steel primary forms for the week ending December 15, 2001 totalled 302 369 metric tonnes, down 1.6% from 307 329 tonnes a week earlier, but

up 13.0% from 267 606 tonnes a year earlier. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 14 425 685 tonnes, a 9.7% decrease compared with 15 970 385 for the same period in 2000.

For general information, or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1 866 873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Dragos Ifrim (613-951-3527; dragos.ifrim@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Crushing statistics

November 2001

Oilseed processors crushed 235 814 metric tonnes of canola in November, according to the Monthly Survey of Crushing Plants. Oil production totalled 98 719 tonnes, while meal production amounted to 144 705 tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: table 001-0005.

The November 2001 issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007-XIB, \$11/\$112; 22-007-XPB, \$15/\$149) will be available in February 2002. *How to order products.*

For more information, or to inquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Les Macartney (613-951-8714; les.macartney@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Construction type plywood

October 2001

In October, Canadian firms produced 181 444 cubic metres of construction type plywood, up 14.0% from the 159 132 cubic metres produced during October 2000.

Year-to-date production to the end of October totalled 1 723 895 cubic metres, an increase of 5.2% from the 1 638 599 cubic metres produced during the same period in 2000.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0005.

The October 2001 (Vol. 49, no. 10) issue of *Construction type plywood* (35-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. *How to order products.*

For general information, or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1 866 873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). For analytical information, or to inquire about the concepts, methods or data quality

of this release, contact Sara Breen (613-951-3521; sara.breen@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Federal government employment in census metropolitan areas

September 2001

In September 2001, almost 70% of the federal government's workforce (or 248,000 employees) was located in the 25 census metropolitan areas of the country. This represents an increase of 7.1% or 16,559 more jobs than in September 2000.

All but two regions reported increases. Ottawa–Hull showed the largest increase, gaining more than 7,000 jobs (+7.25%) compared with a year earlier. This gain offset some of the 16,000 jobs the region lost between 1992 and 1997, due in part to government restructuring. Other regions where federal government employment increased are: Montreal (+13.9% or 2,996 jobs), Toronto (+7.9% or 1,387 jobs) and Vancouver (+8.3% or 1,184 jobs).

Much of this employment increase was concentrated in the following agencies and departments: Canada Revenue and Customs Agency, the Human Resources Development Canada, Statistics Canada, Public Works and Government Services.

Note: A census metropolitan area (CMA) is a very large urban area (known as the urban core), together with adjacent urban and rural areas (known as urban and rural fringes) that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the urban core. By definition, a CMA has an urban core population of at least 100,000, based on the previous census.

Available on CANSIM: table 183-0003.

To order custom tables, or for information about Public Institutions Division's products and services, contact Joanne Rice (613-951-0767; fax: 613-951-0661; joanne.rice@statcan.ca). For further analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Sauvé (613-951-8306; robert.sauve@statcan.ca), Public Institutions Division. ■

Air traffic statistics

May 2001

In May 2001, 587,621 take-offs and landings were recorded at the 98 Canadian airports with NAV Canada air traffic control towers and flight service stations. This was an increase of 3.3% from the activity recorded

during May 2000, when there were 101 airports in the tower and flight service station categories. Churchill, Fort Simpson and Hay River are now included with the data for airports without air traffic control towers.

Statistics for the airports without air traffic control towers participating in this survey are also now available. In May 2001, these 111 airports reported 71,242 take-offs and landings.

The May 2001 monthly report is available on Transport Canada's website at the following URL: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/pol/en/Report/tp141e/tp141.htm>.

For more information concerning this website, contact Michel Villeneuve (613-990-3825; villenm@tc.gc.ca) or Sheila Rajani (613-993-9822; rajanis@tc.gc.ca), Transport Canada.

For more detailed information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kathie Davidson (613-951-0141; fax: (613-951-0010; aviationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Aircraft Movement Statistics

1999

In 1999, performing arts companies reported moderate gains in revenues, up 5.6% from 1998 to reach \$910.6 million. Their profit margin remained unchanged at 11.1%. Salaries and wages accounted for just over one-third of total expenses.

The spectator sports industry—includes professional and semi-professional sports clubs and teams—continued to report losses in 1999, when its profit margin stood at -5.1%.

The amusement and recreation industry generated revenues of \$4.7 billion in 1999. The ski industry, comprised of downhill and cross-country skiing facilities, performed particularly well, posting revenues in 1999 of \$686.8 million, up from \$550.7 million in 1998.

Data for selected industries of the arts, entertainment and recreation services industries—includes performing arts companies, spectator sports, heritage institutions, amusement and recreational facilities—are now available for 1999. These data provide information such as the industry's revenue, expenditures, salaries and wages, profit margin, the percentage distribution of revenue by type of service, and operating expenses by type.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0002.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Lorraine St-Jean (613-951-5000; Lorraine.St-Jean@statcan.ca) or Irene Ross

(613-951-6305; puccire@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division (fax: 613-951-6696). ■

Real estate agents, brokers, appraisers and other real estate activities industries 1999

In 1999, revenue for the real estate agents, brokers, appraisers and other real estate activities industries climbed 27% to reach \$6.1 billion. That compares with \$4.8 billion in revenue the previous year. Total expenses reached \$3.9 billion in 1999, a 5% increase from the \$3.7 billion posted in 1998. These industries are largely dominated by the offices of real estate agents and brokers, which represent 94% of the total revenue.

Data on the real estate agents, brokers, appraisers and other real estate activities industries are now available for 1999. These data provide information on revenue, expenses and profit before income tax at the provincial and territorial level.

Available on CANSIM: table 352-0005.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Francine Monette (613-951-0240; francinemonette@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Specialized design services 1999

In 1999, the specialized design industry reported revenues of \$1.75 billion, an increase of 7% from 1998. The industry's profit margin (before taxes) was 19%.

The 1999 data for the specialized design industry are now available. These data provide information such as the industry's revenue, expenses, wages and salaries and profit margin. Information is also available on the industry's revenue distribution by type of design activity and type of client.

Available on CANSIM: table 360-0002.

For more information about the concepts, methodology or data quality of this survey, contact Pat Adams (613-951-3473; adam.pat@statcan.ca), Services Industries Division (fax: 613-951-6696). ■

Annual Survey of Service Industries: Management, Scientific and Technical Consulting 1999

In 1999, revenue for the management, scientific and technical consulting services industry grew 16% to \$7.0 billion, up from revised total revenues of \$6.0 billion in 1998. As was the case in 1998, approximately 86% of the industry's total revenue was generated by providing management consulting services.

Data for 1999 from the Annual Survey of Service Industries: Management, Scientific and Technical Consulting are now available.

Available on CANSIM: table 360-0001.

For more information about the survey, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Patrick Adams (613-951-3473; fax: 613-951-6696; adampat@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Annual store and chain surveys 1999

Selected operating data at the industrial trade group level for Canada from the 1999 annual surveys are now available, as are the province and territory totals. The estimates are based on the new North American Standard Industry Classification System (NAICS 1997).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marketing and Client Services (1 877 421 3067; 613 951 3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

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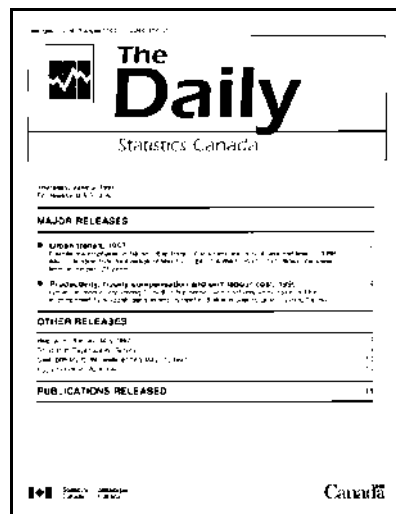
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